Annual Report
2004-2005

Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities
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Mission Statement

The mission of Florida ARF is to promote the interests of people with disabilities or challenges to independence by acting as a public policy change agent, and to promote and serve the interests of community human service provider organizations.

We are Community Organizations:
Private (Profit & Nonprofit)
Goodwill Industries
United Cerebral Palsy Affiliates
Associations for Retarded Citizens
Employment Centers
ICF/DDs
Religious affiliated
Member Agencies

Abilities of Florida; Achievement & Rehab Centers of Broward; American Habilitation Services; Angelwood; Ann Storck Center; ARC Marion; ARC of Martin County; ARC of South Florida; Bethesda Lutheran Homes & Services; Brevard Achievement Center; Broward Children’s Center; CARC - Advocates for Citizens w/Disabilities; Catholic Charities; CCDH; Cerebral Palsy of NE Florida; Children’s Haven and Adult Community Services (CHAC); Community Outreach; Fern Park Development Center; Deslin Enterprises; Devereux Family Care; Dyslexia Research Institute; Amelia Island Care Center; Faye Clark’s New Horizons; GF/Orlando; Goodwill Industries – Central FL; Goodwill Industries of SW FL; Goodwill Industries Suncoast; Goodwill Industries of North Florida; Gulstream Goodwill Industries; Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services; Home at Last; Human Development Center; Jewish Community Services of South Florida; Key Pine Village; lakeview Center; Lee ARC; MacDonald Training center; MACtown; Mains’L Services; MENTOR; NISH; Palm Beach Habilitation Center; Pinellas Association of Retarded Children; Pine Castle, Polk County Association for Handicapped Citizens; Quest; ResCare; Research & Service Foundation; Residential CRF; Sandy Park Development Center; Spectrum Community Services; St. Augustine Center for Living; Sunrise Community; Threshold; Tri-County Tec; UCP of Northwest Florida; UCP of South Florida; Victory Living Programs, W.O.R.C.
Industry Leadership: In FY 04-05 President & CEO Terry R. Farmer worked extensively coordinating the STEP-Up campaign which gave a face to the service needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. The campaign was successful in that an additional 65+ million dollars were added to the service system for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Advocacy: Florida ARF communicated its member positions to the Florida Legislature via its annual Legislative platform, including: Medicaid Waiver rate restoration, funding of McKay Scholarships and Universal Pre-K for disabled children, transition services for disabled children, elimination of ICF/DD rate freezes, funding for DS wait list, supported Workers’ Comp insurance changes, and Vocational Rehabilitation funding resulting in a $16 million budget increase. Florida ARF also added a grassroots advocacy campaign to help individuals articulate their voices.

Training & Education: Florida ARF provided education and training for members during four quarterly meetings.

Florida ARF sponsored a seminar on Employment: Responding to Market Place Changes and a Women’s Forum seminar on communicating agency needs called “Can you hear me now?”

Public Policy Input: Florida ARF analyzed proposed policy for industry impact, attended public hearings, provided oral and written testimony, and represented industry concerns on Administrative Rules proposed by Executive Agencies.
Fiscal Year 04-05 Accomplishments

Information Sharing:
Florida ARF maintained a state-of-the-art website featuring pertinent industry information.

Business Advisory Council (BAC):
The BAC recommended linkages between corporate America and the health and human services industry and provided guidance on potential revenue streams.

National Affiliation Representation:
President & CEO Terry Farmer served as Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services. Florida ARF is also a member of the American Network of Community Options & Resources (ANCOR); Inter-National Association of Business, Industry & Rehabilitation (I-NABIR); NISH; and the State-Use Program Association (SUPRA).

Publications (online):
- Capitol Breaking News (5)
- Issues Forum Breaking News (19)
- President’s Reports (3)
- News Alerts (Multiple)

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Corporate Members: AAA; Scioto Properties; The Glove Store; The Home Depot; Unisource
Agency Liaison: Florida ARF served as a liaison between community human service agencies and government offices responsible for administration of human service programs. See graphic.

Specific Accomplishments: Highlights
- Advocated for $22 million increase in HCBS waiver and $20 million for Vocational Rehabilitation program.
- Sponsored statewide employment forum to promote additional opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
- Co-sponsored President’s Job Fair in Orlando, FL, with the Central Florida Employment Council.
- Implemented grassroots advocacy campaign featuring local community agency involvement.
- Improved communications and enhanced quarterly meetings.
- Represented Florida ARF member interests at multiple hearings such as ICF/DD licensure and rates, DS Handbook, DS Rates, Siting Rule, and IQ Testing.
- Improved collaboration efforts with stakeholders: ARC Florida, Family Care Council; Family Network on Disabilities, and others.
- Coordinated Step-Up campaign to present needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.
Fiscal Year 04-05 Accomplishments

Issues Forums:

**Children’s:** Promoted Charter School Development and tracked Natural Environments movement.

**Community Supports:** Served on Redesign work group; monitored and gave input on DS Waiver changes.

**Government Relations:** Developed and supported legislative platform.

**Employment:** Increased Florida Rehabilitation Council involvement; pursued inappropriate use of Independent Employment Specialists; helped resolve provider payment issues; developed agreement with Workforce.

**ICF/DD:** Prevailed on challenge to freeze rates; gave input on several amendments; tracked & provided input on audits; addressed cluster leases & licensure changes.

**Legal Advocacy:** Prevailed in administrative rule challenge requiring DCF & AHCA to adopt a uniform provider rate system as administrative rule; tracked two law suits through resolution.

**Movement:** Developed issue paper defining position on employment.

**RESPECT Oversight:** Provided direction for the RESPECT program.
RESPECT assists individuals who are severely disabled to achieve maximum personal independence through useful, productive, and gainful employment by assuring an expanded and constant market for the products and services they produce. RESPECT facilitates the placement of individuals with disabilities in competitive employment and uses many methods.

Florida law directs state agencies and political subdivisions to purchase certain products and services from RESPECT employment centers which employ individuals with severe disabilities. State and local government agencies purchase needed products and services from RESPECT employment centers, resulting in jobs for individuals with disabilities.

In FY 2003-2004, 48 RESPECT nonprofit agencies produced a complete line of office, safety, and janitorial products, and provided services such as call center management, janitorial, and maintenance of interstate rest areas.

Florida ARF is the central non-profit agency that administers RESPECT.
Number of Persons with Disabilities Employed Annually

SFY 2003 - 2004

RESPECT Employment Centers Products and Services Sales

$19,000,000
$20,000,000
$21,000,000
$22,000,000
$23,000,000
$24,000,000
$25,000,000
$26,000,000
$27,000,000
SFY 2003-2004 Employee Movement

1745 RESPECT Employees Served

- 1417 individuals in Transition to Work positions
- 267 individuals placed in Competitive Employment
- 61 individuals placed in Supported Employment (SE)

377 SE job placements maintained
## 2003-04 Financial Statement

![Florida ARF Logo]

- **Total Assets**: $690,332
- **Total Liabilities**: $5,724,593
- **Total Net Assets**: $(34,261)
- **Total Liabilities & Net Assets**: $5,690,332
- **Total Revenue**: $23,190,746
- **Total Expenses**: $23,466,118
- **Change in Net Assets**: $(257,372)
- **Beginning Net Assets**: $(34,261)

*Audited 03-04 statements: 04-05 not available.*